

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE



September 4, 2022

“Sunday School Stories Grown Up: Hanukkah”

Prelude

Welcome

Please sign and pass the friendship pad.

*Call to Worship (Psalm 30, Common English Bible)

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

One: I exalt you, O Lord, because you pulled me up;
you didn't let my enemies celebrate over me.

All: Lord, my God, I cried out to you for help, and you healed me.

One: You who are faithful to the Lord, sing praises to God's name. Give thanks to God's holy name!

All: You changed my mourning into dancing.

One: You dressed me up in joy so that my whole being might sing praises to you and never stop.

All: Lord, my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

*Hymn #81 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

*Call to Confession

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

*Time of Silent Confession

*Unison Prayer of Confession

Creator God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We hear the story of renewal for the Hebrew people, yet we are silent when they are cursed today. We hear the story of dedication to

At Westminster, we strive to be a community of authentic welcome, embodied by living in love for God and our neighbors. The Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Foundations of Faith includes the following call to Unity in Diversity: "In Christ, by the power of the Spirit, God unites persons through baptism regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sex, disability, geography, or theological conviction. There is therefore no place in the life of the Church for discrimination against any person. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall guarantee full participation and representation in its worship, governance, and emerging life to all persons or groups within its membership." (Book of Order, 2019-2023, F-1.0403)

During Hanukkah, Zechariah 4:1-7 is one of the readings commonly shared in Reformed Jewish worship. (Source: reformjudaism.org)

Reform Judaism, in faith and inclusivity, is the Jewish tradition most similar in spirit to those of us in more open-minded Protestant Christian denominations, like the PC(USA), of which Westminster is a congregation. (Pastor Chris)

More from reformjudaism.org: "Reform Judaism has enabled the Jewish people to introduce innovation while preserving tradition; to embrace diversity while asserting commonality; to affirm beliefs without rejecting those who doubt; and to bring faith to sacred texts without sacrificing critical scholarship."

faith, yet we can easily let our faith become another to-do list item. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways. With hope in Christ, we pray. Amen.

Response to the Confession

#288

***Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.***

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

...Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

***Response of Praise**

#59

***The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning, new every morning;
great is your faithfulness, O Lord,
great is your faithfulness.***

***Passing of the Peace**

Please share a sign of welcome and inclusion that is mutually comfortable (high five, handshake, fist/elbow bump) with your neighbors.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Children's Chat

Trish Souliere

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Hebrew Scriptures (Apocrypha) 1 Maccabees 4:41-59
Hebrew Scriptures (Prophets) Zechariah 4:1-7 O.T. pg. 881

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Sermon

"Symbols of God's Presence"
Rev. Chris Peters

***Hymn #744**

Arise, Your Light is Come!

***Affirmation of Faith (Confession of 1967, 9.41-42)**

Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

The church in its mission encounters other religions and in that encounter becomes conscious of its own human character as a religion. God's revelation to Israel, expressed within Semitic culture, gave rise to the religion of the Hebrew people. God's revelation in Jesus Christ called forth the response of Jews and Greeks and came to expression within Judaism and Hellenism as the Christian religion. Christians find parallels between other religions and their own and must approach all religions with openness and respect.

The Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Communion of the People

The words of Hymn 507 can remind us that the Lord's Supper is a meal set at God's table, not a Westminster-only table, nor a Presbyterians-only table. God's table is a table of grace, one without fences, open to all: the faithful, the curious, and the doubting.

Special Music

"Hanukkah Hayom!"
Traditional Hanukkah song, arr. by Michael Larkin
Westminster Choir

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn #507

Come to the Table of Grace

*Charge & Benediction

Rev. Chris Peters

Postlude

*Please rise in body or spirit for these parts of worship.

Some liturgical resources this Sunday are adapted from resources by Rev. Teri McDowell Ott, Editor, Presbyterian Outlook, 2022.

Westminster welcomes and values children in worship. If a parent feels a break is needed for their child during the service, our **Infant Room** is available. This is located off the entry foyer through the Sheridan Blvd./West-end sanctuary doors. When you enter the foyer, turn to your right, where the door will be open.

Ministers: The whole congregation

Pastors: Rev. Chris Peters & Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn

Music Director: Ronnie Zanella

Organist: John Ross
Director of Children & Youth: Trish Souliere

Ushers: Carol Boehler, Kim Kubick, Susan Jackson, Sarah Baltensperger

Greeters: Karen and Rachel Hoffman

Communion Servers: Ray Stevens, Gwen Thorpe, Tom Welstead, Diana Wild, Linda Burchard

Giving to Westminster's Mission and Ministry

At Church: An offering to support Westminster may be placed in our Giving Baskets following the service. These are located by the Sheridan Blvd. doors in the narthex and the sanctuary elevator exit. Look for the signs that read "Giving Basket."

Online: To give online, visit the following web address:

<https://westminsterlincoln.org/generosity-and-the-joy-of-giving/>

If you don't want to take your bulletin with you, please dispose of it in the recycling basket as you exit the sanctuary.



*“I am the vine,
you are the branches . . .”*

The week of Sept. 4, 2022

*Westminster Presbyterian Church is an inclusive faith family,
inspired by Jesus Christ, to call, nurture, and empower disciples.*

Kick-Off Sunday

Next Sunday, September 11

- 9:30 AM Worship
- 10:30 AM-12 PM

Look for games, a bouncy house, Kona Ice, food, and fun. Visit the photo booth to get your picture taken, make a popsicle stick picture frame, and check out the VR Game Truck Jesus Experience. The Rising will be back to provide entertainment and various Life Groups will be showcasing upcoming activities.

- Used Book Sale begins. If you have books to donate, bring them to Fellowship Hall by Sept. 8.

Wednesday, September 14: Activities Resume for all Ages

- 5:30-6:00 PM Gathering & Games
6:00-6:30 PM Dinner
6:30-7:30 PM Activities for all Ages
 - Children/Youth
 - Adults: Pastor Chris Class “Living the Faith”

Sunday, September 25: “2-Year Celebration”

- A morning of learning and connection opportunities with Dr. Martha Moore-Keish, J.B. Green Professor of Theology at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA. This event is in celebration of two years of Pastor Chris arriving at Westminster. Our speaker is a respected and relatable theologian in the PCUSA, as well as the Professor/Mentor Chris would have invited to join us for his Installation Service in 2020. However, due to COVID-19, we were not able to have a guest preacher and lecturer that day.
- Schedule Details Forthcoming



Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach Family Service Opportunity | Sunday, Sept. 4 or Nov. 6

Sign up your family to volunteer here:
<https://forms.gle/gqmdsmiWbdRqVJJW8>.

Questions? Contact Susie Hughes at skh@eskays.com.

Lunch Bunch will meet Tuesday, September 6, at Granite City. RSVP to Jim Kinkennon at jimkinkennon@gmail.com or 402-290-5888

West Entrance Ramp Installed

The Building and Grounds Committee has arranged for a temporary ramp to be installed at the west entrance of the church. It is now available for use to anyone needing access to the sanctuary while the elevator is being repaired.

Used Book Sale

WPC's annual *Used Book Sale* begins on Kick-Off Sunday, Sept. 11 and runs until the following Sunday, Sept. 18. If you have books to donate, bring them to Fellowship Hall by Sept. 8. Give Martha Kingsbury a call if you'd like to help her sort books and set up the sale (402-304-7052).



Online Registration: Programming for children and youth is coming back soon. Please fill out the simple, online form by scanning the QR code, so that we have emergency contact information for you. You may register children ages 2 through high school with this form.

CROP Walk | Sunday, October 9

Westminster will be participating in the 2022 CROP Hunger Walk to support CWS and help families who are struggling with hunger.

Register to walk or to donate to our team at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/event/lincolne> or scan the QR code.



Lohmen Lore

Last week's answer:

Westminster travelers preparing a traditional Thanksgiving dinner in Lohmen, Germany, were surprised to learn that typical German kitchen equipment doesn't include pie plates! A desperate call back to Lincoln, an overnight shipment of aluminum pans, and the dinner went on—complete with dessert.

New question:

A group of seven travelers will represent Westminster as the Lohmen Church celebrates two pastors who are retiring. What special gifts will they be bringing from Lincoln?

- a) Dorothy Lynch Dressing and Bakers Chocolates
- b) books and a decorative plate
- c) Nebraska grown popcorn and a framed print of a sandhill crane

On-Going Library Help

We are looking for some on-going help in the library. Martha Kingsbury has been keeping watch over it for several years, and she would like to share her expertise with someone. Is the library an area where you would like to help? Talk with Martha if you have an interest or questions about what is involved, or call the church office.

Week Beginning September 4

<p><u>Sun. (4)</u> 9:15 AM Youth Sermon Set-Up 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 9:40 AM Faith Village/Nursery 10:50 AM <i>Scripture and Sermon</i> Discussion, Lounge 12 Noon Sudanese Worship</p>	<p><u>Wed. (7)</u> 10 AM Circle 3, Lounge 1:30 PM Hearts & Hands 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Hearts & Hands</p>
<p><u>Mon. (5)</u> Labor Day, Building Closed</p>	<p><u>Sat. (10)</u> 8 AM Cub College, Scouts</p>
<p><u>Tues. (6)</u> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p><u>Sun. (11)</u> 9 AM Used Book Sale, FH 9:15 AM Youth Sermon Set-Up 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship</p>

11:30 AM Lunch Bunch, Granite City 5 PM Adult Ed Committee, Lounge 6 PM Building and Grounds, Lounge 7 PM Circle 4	9:40 AM Faith Village/Nursery 10:30 AM Kick-Off Sunday Events 12 Noon Sudanese Worship
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Week 35 Giving	\$2,546
YTD Giving	\$379,628
Weekly Budget	\$10,970
YTD Budget	\$383,959

Televised Worship

Thurs. at 12:30 pm/Sat. at 1 pm.

Channel 1302/Spectrum & Channel 13/Windstream.

joanne@westminsterlincoln.org

402-475-6702